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Nova Southeastern University

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We stand with

*Stoneman Douglas*

2.14.2018

#ParklandStrong

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## NSU responds to mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School

By: **Jenna Kopec**

Co-Editor-in-Chief

“I share with you all the grief of yesterday’s tragic event in Parkland. These unnecessary scenes of violence leave many of us feeling a sense of hopelessness. My heart goes out to all who are affected and, more than ever, it’s a time for the NSU family to support each other and our neighbors,” said NSU President George Hanbury in a Feb. 15 memorandum sent to all NSU students, faculty and staff.

The memorandum was sent almost 24 hours after a mass shooting took place at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, killing at least 17 people and injuring several others. The Parkland high school is approximately 30 minutes from NSU’s Fort Lauderdale/Davie campus. Students from the high school are known to visit NSU’s campus for certain Broward county public events like the Florida Scholastic Press Association Conference and DECA competitions which are held at NSU.

Following the shooting, NSU also hosted a Big Red Bus to collect blood to support victims on Feb. 15 in front of the Terry Building. The rest of the NSU community, including students and faculty, have also responded in several ways.

On Feb. 15, NSU’s chapter of Campus



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Students tried to express emotions of support and empathy, with encouragement from Campus Cursive.

Cursive began an initiative to show solidarity with the students at Stoneman Douglas. The group set up a station in the Don Taft University Center and encouraged NSU students to participate in writing notes of solidarity and encouragement. Taylor Bertolini, junior environmental science major and president of the organization, explained that students could write a note that would eventually be sent to Stoneman Douglas after it is reopened.

Bertolini said the club contacted the

school’s guidance department to find out how to deliver the message and also said that nationwide Campus Cursive chapters also want to write to the high school and will send their messages to NSU’s chapter to be delivered.

“I’m from South Florida and went to high school down the street from Stoneman Douglas. When I found out about everything yesterday, I just broke down and started crying,” said Bertolini. “And Campus Cursive just decided it’s something that we needed to do. We actually also got a lot of messages from other NSU students asking if we were going to.”

Justin Smith, associate director of residential life, stopped by the table to write a note that day. The following day he spoke about how the shooting impacted him.

“As a native South Floridian and graduate of a high school in Broward County this tragedy struck so close to home. Knowing that I have two younger sisters that are also enrolled in high school here in Broward County. I cannot begin to understand or fathom the amount of grief that the families must feel,” said Smith. “I extend my deepest condolences to all of the families of the victims, the Stoneman Douglas and Parkland

Community. We are all #StonemanStrong.”

The Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) also held a vigil on Monday evening in honor of the high school. Alex Lopez, senior marketing management major and USGA president, said that the vigil was meant to represent both the victims of the shooting and the fact that it could have happened at NSU.

“We want this vigil — especially because Stoneman Douglas is so close to home and these students have been on our campus before. It only makes sense that NSU stands together as a community and supports them,” said Lopez. “This is especially important because we have NSU students that graduated from Stoneman Douglas. We may have parents in graduate programs. Someone here has been affected, so as a school we should show solidarity.”

Lopez, who is also a South Florida native, said that the shooting is having a large impact on campus.

“Everyone knows somebody who knows somebody that’s been affected [even if you’re

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## Students still have concerns about food on campus

By: **Jenna Kopec**

Co-Editor-in-Chief

At a town hall meeting held in the Flight Deck on Jan. 31, several students expressed concerns about dining on campus, including the quality and pricing of food and the service at Shark Dining locations.

These complaints came after Shark Dining revamped meal options at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie campus through an initiative with Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA) in time for the beginning of the Fall of 2017 semester. The Current covered the changes which included new recipes, menus and even new dining locations which included the introduction of Chef’s Table, Roma’s Italian Kitchen and Innovation Kitchen venues. The Current also spoke to Shark Dining about staffing concerns students brought to us in October.

Since the town hall meeting, The Current has spoken with students to understand what problems they may still be experiencing ahead of a public informational meeting about a “hybrid dining option” in 2018 (see inside).

Alex Lopez, senior marketing management major and USGA president, worked with Shark Dining over the summer to bring changes to food on campus, a concern he said students have had since his freshman year.

“We’re super thankful that we revamped the food [at the beginning of the year] because now there’s more of a variety and more options. That’s not the problem,” said Lopez. “Yes, Shark Dining revamped the menus and the locations, but the quality and the service still hasn’t changed and that’s the main issue.”

Lopez said that USGA has spoken to business services, President Hanbury and Shark Dining about issues regarding pricing and quality of food on campus. While Lopez wanted to stress that generally representatives from these departments are understanding and want to help, he said he wasn’t sure where the disconnect was when it comes to service and food quality.

Lopez said that students also consistently brought concerns about declining balance, or DB, and options for vegan or gluten-free students. While Shark Dining recently added more options for vegans and gluten-free students, Lopez said that these are options are mainly side dishes as opposed to full meals.

In terms of declining balance, students have a sliding scale of issues. Lopez said that student athletes often find themselves running short on DB because they have to eat an increased and steady amount of calories. Some

students, on the other hand, find themselves with too much declining balance because they don’t buy enough food on campus.

That’s the case for freshman marine biology major Christian Craig, who said that he was left with “a lot” of DB at the end of last semester. Craig attributed this to skipping meals throughout the day, though he said this wasn’t because of the quality of the food.

“The food is usually adequate. It could be better but I’m okay,” said Craig, who also said he just didn’t have “too high of expectations” about food.

David Naranjo, junior environmental science major, said that when it comes to DB, students could survive the semester if they “spent it wisely.”

“But, if I wanted to buy a pop or get a coffee at Starbucks everyday outside of a normal three meals, it wouldn’t be enough,” said Naranjo.

Naranjo, like Lopez, said that there’s definitely been improvements when it comes to Shark Dining, particularly in areas of variety. In terms of pricing, Naranjo had the following to say.

“Prices would be justified if the food was good,” said Naranjo. “Sometimes it’s decent but I don’t want to be eating here everyday.”

Naranjo isn’t the only person who finds eating campus on every day unappealing.

“There is not much variety, especially if you eat on campus every single day,” said Sol Santicchia, freshman art and design major.

Sofia Austt, freshman business management major, said that the food prices also make it hard to eat healthy.

“The pricing does not help students to eat healthy. A slice of pizza is 3 times cheaper than a healthy plate,” said Austt. “It is hard to decide what to eat knowing that you have a small, limited amount of money, but at the same time you want to eat healthy.”

Craig and Naomi Franklin, biology major, both agreed that consistency was a problem with Shark Dining in terms of service and quality.

“Sometimes it’s just really not up to par,” said Franklin, who said she had just been served overcooked corn.

Franklin said that sometimes the food is edible but other times was very disappointing. She used the example of eggs she had last Saturday.

“They were the most bland eggs I’ve ever had in my life,” said Franklin.

The Current reached out to Shark Dining for comment, but has not received a response.

NewsAnchor

Stay up to date with international and national events.

Cyril Ramaphosa becomes South African president

Cyril Ramaphosa has become South Africa’s president, one day after previous leader Jacob Zuma resigned. According to BBC, Ramaphosa was the only candidate nominated by parliament. He was sworn into office on Feb. 15. In his first presidential speech, he said he will tackle the corruption allegedly brought on due to Zuma.

Senate blocks immigration bill

The Senate blocked four immigration bills on Feb. 15. One of these bills was backed by the president. Due to no immigration bill passing, USA Today stated that DACA Dreamers are at risk for deportation starting March 5.

Former President and First Lady’s portraits unveiled

On Feb. 12, former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama’s National Portrait Gallery portraits were unveiled. According to the New York Times, the artists, Amy Sherald and Kehinde Wiley, will be the first black artists to have their work displayed in the gallery. Both felt incredibly honored to work side by side with the Obamas on their work.

Ultra-processed foods possibly linked to cancer

A European study published on Feb. 14 by the British Medical Journal states that ultra-processed foods are possibly linked to cancer. According to USA Today, ultra-processed foods are consumables made in factories that are made with ingredients not found in homes. Ultra-processed foods include: instant noodles, TV dinners and sodas. The study found that a 10 percent increase in these food products could increase the risk of cancer by 12 percent.

News Briefs

- Sharks and Service to go to Puerto Rico

Sharks and Service has announced that the summer service trip will be to San Juan, Puerto Rico. The focus of this service trip will be disaster relief from Hurricane Maria. The final cost of the trip is still undetermined, but will not be over \$750. Contact Andrea Dobo at ad1975@nova.edu or at 954-262 7297 if you have any questions.
- Nominations for President’s 64 now open

Nominations for the 2018-2019 President’s 64 are now open. Faculty and staff can nominate students or write a letter of recommendation to presidents64@nova.edu. The deadline to submit nominations is March 2 by 5 p.m.. For more information, email presidents64@nova.edu or visit nova.edu/president/the64.
- Nominations for Student Leadership awards now open

Nominations for the 12th Annual Student Leadership Awards are now available on OrgSync. All students, faculty and staff are welcome to submit nominations. The deadline to submit nominations is March 24 by 5 p.m.. For more information, contact Garrett Horejsi at 954- 262-7293 or gh591@nova.edu or Renae Bollibon at 954-262-2461 or rb2005@nova.edu.
- Applications for NSU’s Got Talent now open

Applications for Student Event and Activities Board’s NSU’s Got Talent are now open. Prizes will be given out to the first, second and third place winners. To sign up, visit nova.edu/nsusgottalent. Applications are due by March 26. Contact Kristen Bingham at kb1646@mynsu.nova.edu or 954-262-7288 for more information.

New ‘hybrid’ dining service discussed at NSU dining services informational meeting

By: Madelyn Rinka  
News Editor

On Feb. 16, students were invited to attend a public informational meeting about upcoming changes and announcements to NSU dining services with Chartwells staff and Adee Shekar, director of operations. The meeting also featured a question and answer session where approximately 40 attendees were able to bring up their concerns to the staff.

Among the topics discussed was the hybrid dining service that will be implemented at NSU this fall, provided no hitches with construction stall progress. According to Shekar, the idea behind this new hybrid service is that, during certain meal periods, an “all you care to eat” section of the UC will open. A specified area which will be constructed later this year, will be roped off, and students will pay a flat rate — which has not yet been determined — to eat for the duration of the predetermined period.

According to Shekar, the build-your-own-meal style of dining that this new structure will implement, it is believed that students who have specific dietary restrictions will be able to eat with more ease. Students who are vegan, vegetarian, kosher or who have any other restriction are expected to have an easier experience during mealtimes as students can leave non-conforming foods off of their plate, and will have full knowledge and control of what they eat.

Construction of this redesigned dining hall will take place during the summer of 2018, closing some locations. Residential students who will be living at NSU over the summer, such as orientation leaders and admission ambassadors, were assured that there will be some dining options open during this period.

Another point that was brought up was the quality of food. Complaints ranged from weird texture to underseasoning. However, Shekar said that it is nearly impossible to cater to the palates of every student. One student also brought up the idea of having a tasting committee, but that was deemed as equally difficult. Furniss explained the complications with the implementation of a tasting committee.

“You run into the situation where five students are representing everybody,” said Stefanie Furniss, director of operations for shark dining. “It’s an opinion, and it’s preference based.”

In addition to the new hybrid plan that was discussed, students seemed pleased to hear that, given no new construction or permitting issues arise, Einstein’s will be reopening after spring break. A delay in receiving permits caused the pushback for the opening, but the new renovations will give students different seating options and menu items like espresso-based beverages.

If students have more concerns with dining and were unable to attend the meeting, they are encouraged to contact Shekar at shekar@nova.edu or by calling 954-262-8830. In addition, for faster responses, the Text2Solve system available at every register on campus should be utilized.

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# NSU Art Museum to host museum café tasting event

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor

On Feb. 21, from 12 to 2 p.m., the NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale will host a museum café tasting event. The tasting event is free and open to the public, minus the cost of admission. The tasting event will be based on the newly installed exhibition, “Midnight in Paris and New York.”

“When we have major exhibitions, whenever possible, we like to tie in menu items to go along with the theme,” explained Sally Glenn, museum store and café manager. “We just opened up the exhibition called ‘Midnight in Paris and New York.’ It is centered around our William Glackens permanent collection.”

In addition to works created by Glackens, the exhibition will also feature works from Eugène Atget, Brassai, André Kertesz, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Alphonse Mucha, Pablo Picasso, John Sloan and Louis Comfort Tiffany, according to the museum’s website. The mediums vary from sketches to paintings, but all works are focused around the rapidly changing

world society between 1890 and 1930.

To follow the French art and influence, the samples available in the café will be French macarons — small cookies made from almond flour and egg whites, which are generally sandwiched together with a filling — and French rosé.

“The tasting is fun, you get a free sample of a macaron and wine, if you’re of age,” said Glenn. “Most importantly, we like people to come and see the exhibitions, to realize the museum is a really important resource for students.”

As always, NSU students’ admission is covered by the membership the university provides. General admission for adults is \$12, for senior and military discounts is \$8 and college students with a valid ID is \$5. The exhibition opened on Feb. 4 and will be accessible until Oct. 18, 2018, however the tasting is only scheduled to happen on Feb. 21. For more information, call 954-262-0236.

## STONEMAN DOUGLAS CONTINUED FROM 1

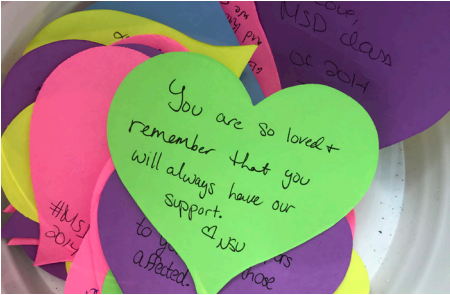
not from the area]. I think that kind of shows how close of a community NSU is,” said Lopez.

Bertolini also saw a shift on campus.

“I think that it’s humbling us,” she said. “It’s making us realize that this could honestly happen anywhere and we’re blessed that it hasn’t happened here. I just think that it’s making us reflect a little bit more at the end of our day.”

Scott Poland, Ed.D, professor in the College of Psychology, has led multiple national crisis teams following school shootings. He said that whenever an event like this happens, it can have an impact on individuals, but when the tragedy happens in our own area, it can make it much more difficult. For that reason, Poland said it’s normal for students to feel frustrated, confused or even a little depressed, so students should also make sure that they are taking care of themselves.

“Identify who or what has helped you before,” explained Poland. “Things like family, friends and faith and return to them. Try to make sure you get enough sleep and keep up with your routines.”



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The community sends colored hearts to show Stoneman Douglas students that there are people supporting them during this difficult time.

Students, staff and faculty have resources available to them through the university to help them grieve or process these events. Hanbury cited in his memorandum that staff and faculty can utilize the Employee Assistance Program by going to [resourcesforliving.com](http://resourcesforliving.com) or by phone at 877-398-5816. The Employee Assistance Program username is ICUBA and the password is 8773985816. Students can make a free appointment at Henderson Student Counseling Services by calling 954-424-6911 or can call the 24-hour hotline at 954-262-7050.

# NSU helps save African rhinos from extinction

By: **Christina McLaughlin**  
Opinions Editor

Stephen O’Brien, a research scientist in the Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography, has worked with international colleagues from South Africa on a project created in 2010, to create a DNA database of rhinoceroses to help prosecute poachers who kill critically endangered black rhinos and nearly threatened white rhinos for their horns.

Rhino poaching or “dehorning” has seen a rapid rise in recent years due to an increased demand for rhino horns in Southeast Asia.

“Today between 1,000 and 1,200 [rhinos] are poached in South Africa each year,” said O’Brien.

Save the Rhino, a conservation initiative, stated that in countries like Vietnam, these horns are believed to have medicinal purposes to cure disease and ailments, a status symbol of wealth and are collected simply as trophies. With such a high demand and an incredible price tag — just one kilogram of horn could be the same price as gold — poachers near and far are ready to cash in.

In airports, international markets or even

some areas of Africa, anti-poaching teams have been able to confiscate these horns but, according to O’Brien, authorities couldn’t prove where the specimens came from and in some cases, couldn’t confirm if they were actually rhino horns. Cindy Harper, a veterinarian and genetic specialist with the University of Pretoria in South Africa, created RhODIS in 2010, a Rhino DNA Index System which resembles CODIS, the U.S. FBI’s criminal DNA database.

According to University of Pretoria’s website, DNA samples of rhinos across Africa are collected in the database to create unique profiles of individual rhinos. The goal is for all rhinos to be on the system, living or dead, which will deter future poachers and assist in forensic prosecutions of accused poachers in the courts.

This project is a diverse collaboration with experts from the University of Pretoria’s Veterinary Genetics Lab, St. Petersburg State University’s Theodosius Dobzhansky Center for Genome Bioinformatics and African wildlife enforcement units along with South African National Parks (SANParks).

A major part of this project is going into the field and collecting samples for the database. SANPark Rangers and the Forensic Science Lab of the South African Police Services are trained to use RhODIS collection kits in conjunction with an iPad connected to eRhODIS to use samples as a chain of evidence in these investigations. This field version of RhODIS, eRhODIS, is linked to the main server and transmits new data samples. These samples are taken from live rhinos within the parks, crime scenes of dead rhinos and DNA from confiscated horns suspected to be rhino. These DNA samples can be used to identify the species, population or geographical area and each specimen’s specific genotype.

“The hope is when they catch an individual that’s suspected of poaching, [RhODIS] will have clear, conditioned data to present to a judge and jury to have a confident conviction of an individual involved in these heinous crimes,” said O’Brien.

In 2010, the first court case in which RhODIS was utilized resulted in a Vietnamese citizen being sentenced to 10 years in prison for

rhino horns in his baggage at the OR Tambo International Airport. As stated in an article on Phys.org, RhODIS has been used in more than 5,800 forensic cases with links between recovered horns, blood-stained evidence and specific rhino carcasses in more than 120 court cases.

O’Brien hopes that the publicity of these cases, education of the public and the future use of RhODIS will help protect and possibly save these endangered species from extinction.

On Jan. 8, collaborators involved in this project including Harper and O’Brien, printed their research in an article in Current Biology titled, “Robust forensic matching of confiscated horns to individual poached African rhinoceros.” This article can be accessed via the Alvin Sherman Library database.

O’Brien will present his work on this project on March 30 at the Center for Collaborative Research.

# NSU established designated rideshare and delivery point

By: **Madelyn Rinka**  
News Editor



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Housing services provided a map of the location of the designated rideshare and delivery point in the Feb. 9 email to residential students.

where it’s outside of ongoing traffic, and at the same time it’s close to students.”

Students are encouraged to use this location for rideshare and delivery services

such as Lyft, Uber, UberEats and Postmates. To ensure drivers go to the correct spot, students are directed to either drag their location “pin” to the service road, or to direct their drivers via text

message or phone to turn left at the four-way stop on McCahill Drive, right before the Shark Circle. There are also signs in place to help direct drivers, located outside and inside of the service road.

“I think this is a safer way of utilizing rideshare, drop-offs and deliveries,” said Bravo. “It’s an area where they don’t have to be looking left and right for ongoing traffic.”

Overall, this spot was designated out of concern for students’ safety.

“We don’t want anybody to get hit; people don’t have to cross the street. The area we picked is a secured area that people can get picked up and dropped off at,” explained Tammy Yazzetti, parking operations coordinator for Public Safety.

For any questions regarding the new rideshare and delivery location, or for any general parking concerns, please contact the Public Safety Department Parking Services Office at 954-262-8984 or 954-262-8914. Students can also refer to the email they received for a map of the location.



# Somy Ali: NSU Alumna ensures “No More Tears”

By: Christina McLaughlin  
Opinions Editor

NSU encourages students to not only further their education, but to make impacts on the world once they leave campus. By instilling values of outreach in the community and the values of being a civil servant, many students leave here and start leading successful careers balanced with community involvement.

One such NSU alumna, Somy Ali who graduated from NSU in 2002 with a psychology degree, continued her education at New York University for documentary filmmaking and started her own non-profit organization called No More Tears in 2007. Since then, she has never looked back.

No More Tears (NMT) specializes in assisting domestic violence and human trafficking survivors with a variety of programs to encourage and empower them to get back on their feet and rise above their pasts. Some of these services include attorneys, an emergency three-night stay, doctors from a variety of disciplines, therapy sessions, transportation, food and driving lessons.

“We provide them every service under the sun. The goal is to teach them how to fish, not just provide them a bunkbed,” said Ali.

NMT’s mission is to help survivors get back on their feet. At NMT, survivors are taught to be self-sufficient, self-dependent and self-reliable.

“They have to have an income. Most of



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Somy Ali (center), stands with a victim at the No More Tears office.

the time the victims of domestic violence end up going back to the abusers because they can’t support themselves. We make sure that we can provide them with as many services as possible to ensure they don’t go back,” said Ali.

Of the 20,000 survivors NMT has helped over the past 11 years, only two returned back to the lives they once lived. NMT’s success stems from personal experience since Ali herself, is a survivor of sexual abuse.

“[NMT] has been extremely therapeutic for me since I’m a survivor of sexual abuse

in my childhood — when I was five, nine and then again when I was 13. It’s therapeutic to get victims out of these situations and watch them heal,” said Ali.

NMT also lives up to its name as a true not-for-profit charity organization. None of the members of this charity get paid as it is entirely volunteer-based. As Ali puts it:

“I realized that a lot of nonprofits have high administrative costs and there is a lot of corruption in nonprofits and I wanted to have a model with my organization where 100 percent of the money will go to the victim services programs. I did not want to do this work for salary. I wanted to do it on a volunteer basis.”

All of the funding for NMT comes from donations or private, monthly donors.

As such a dependable network for victims, there have definitely been some success stories. The first victim they helped got her doctorate in pharmacy from NSU. Right now, they have a trafficking victim that is going to nursing school. She was in the human trafficking industry in Miami for 20 years.

“Miami ranks number three in the nation for human trafficking behind California and Texas. This is a prevalent issue in the Miami and Fort Lauderdale area and it seems like people are just oblivious or unaware of how serious this issue is,” said Ali.

Ali said that cases like this aren’t

uncommon and that raising awareness is also part of NMT’s mission. The youngest victim they assisted was a two-year-old girl who was a victim of human trafficking and sexual abuse.

The International Labor Office estimates that human trafficking generated over 150 billion dollars in illegal profits and according to Forbes.com, it is the fastest growing industry internationally and nationally despite people’s awareness of this issue.

“That’s why it’s such a growing enterprise. You cannot reuse a drug but you can keep reusing that one product. Which is a man, a woman or a child,” said Ali.

She credits NSU for helping provide the tools and teach her the fundamentals like, how to get funding and how to use public speaking as an advantage. NSU taught her to question things that she wasn’t encouraged to as a child. NSU encouraged her to see different perspectives and proved to her that all views are equal. Now, Ali encourages others to stand up against injustices and fight for what they believe in.

“I think people who have a platform or have any kind of clout need to speak up, take a stand and help. There are so many issues and so many ways to help [others],” said Ali.

If you would like to learn more information about NMT, read some success stories or get involved, visit [nomoretearsusa.org](http://nomoretearsusa.org).

# NSU student and Marjory Stoneman Douglas alumna reacts to tragedy

By: Ashley Arinus  
Contributing Writer

Ashley Arinus is a senior business administration major. She graduated from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in 2014.

As I sit down and try to put my thoughts into words, I realize that I truly do not know what to say. I don’t believe any of us know what to say or what to make of the situation. Parkland is home. It is the safest city in Florida. It is a small, tight-knit community where most individuals have gone to the same schools together all the way from pre-school to high school; some ultimately come back to raise a family. We visit the same pediatricians, live in the same few gated communities and country clubs. We attend the same synagogue or church and belong to the same clubs. I am so proud to have grown up in Parkland and to have had the opportunity to graduate from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

You see, most people do not even know where Parkland is. It is a small, peaceful escape from giant South Florida. When asked where I’m from, I always say, “a city between Coral Springs and Boca.” Now, everyone will know exactly where Parkland and Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School are.

However, they have not yet learned what we are made of. Parkland is a city full of opportunity and Stoneman Douglas High School has molded me into the person I am today. According to US News, it is one of the best high

## “Do not hide that eagle pride.”

schools in the state, not only academically, but with high-quality of teachers, faculty and staff, sports programs, and resources. It is a place of learning for some of the brightest individuals and students to further educate and send out into the world.

What happened the other day was unimaginable here. However, our Broward County teachers, faculty, hospitals, law enforcement and first-responders could not have been any more prepared. Based on information provided by news outlets like CNN and BBC News we have learned of individuals such as teachers Aaron Feis, Scott Beigel, Chris Hixon and 15-year-old student Peter Wang, who sacrificed their lives to save others. As an alumna of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, I can confidently say I am not the least bit surprised that these staff members would make the ultimate sacrifice, because that is just who they were.

Many individuals are so desensitized to school shootings and to violence in this country because it happens all too often. Friends and individuals unrelated to the community have been asking all the wrong questions or tying this horrible event into all the wrong political

platforms. News reporters and photographers have been imposing on private services to record spoken words from victims’ families and hide in bushes during burials to take photos. I have even seen my own father’s picture from a funeral on the news.

This tragedy has affected all of us. It has taken the life of a special person who I am close to, who my family is close to, and of countless individuals who have had major impacts on this community. It has taken the lives and unlimited potential away from unbelievably young children. However, it has also provided the city of Parkland and the alumni and students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School an opportunity to enforce change.

Parkland is home to some of the most successful and influential individuals. It includes doctors and first responders, powerful lawyers, federal agents, law enforcement, entrepreneurs, important elected officials, and professional athletes. If anyone can make a change, it is those from Parkland. The people of Parkland and the families of the victims — and in fact, young survivors themselves — are already pushing change and will not sleep until it is done. We will enforce change, these brave survivors will enforce change, and we will be the community to provide this nation an opportunity to say #NeverAgain. We are one. We are #DouglasStrong. “Do not hide that eagle pride.”

If you would like to help support victims



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Arinus poses alongside classmate Ruth Pineda after their graduation ceremony in 2014.

of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting, the Broward Sheriff’s Office has asked that contributors visit [www.gofundme.com/stonemandouglasvictimsfund](http://www.gofundme.com/stonemandouglasvictimsfund), warning that supporters should avoid the many fraudulent accounts that have been created. Blood donations are also needed. NSU students and faculty can donate blood aboard any of the One Blood buses on campus.

Additionally, the Broward Sheriff’s Office has announced that anyone who is feeling overwhelmed by this tragedy may dial 2-1-1 to speak with a helpline counselor. NSU students can call the Henderson Student Counseling Center crisis hotline at any time by calling 954-262-6911 or schedule an appointment with counselor by calling 954-262-7050.

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@THECURRENTNSU





## Being marketable beyond test scores

By: **Jessica McDonald**  
Contributing Writer

Many students seem to focus on simply passing their classes as a means to get themselves into their chosen field. Unfortunately, it is not enough for students to do well in classes to be considered competitive in their fields. Here are some ideas for how to get your name and face out there before you graduate:

### Join professional organizations

NSU has many professional organizations that can help students get involved in their respective fields before they leave school. Getting involved in these kinds of organizations can help you figure out if you really do want to work in the field you’ve chosen based on the experience you will earn by completing organizational duties. Additionally, working as a member of these organizations can introduce you to the kind of work you can do post graduation.

### Network

Meeting people in your field before you graduate is a big deal. Networking through

attending events like lectures, or by joining clubs and organizations can help you when you interview for jobs because of the connections you make during these opportunities. For example, you might meet someone that your potential employer knows, which can help you connect with them on a personal and professional level. According to a study done by People and Strategy, modern companies are turning to platforms such as Facebook and Twitter to initiate discussions relevant to their business model as a way to filter possible candidates for work. This suggests that, as young professionals coming into your chosen fields, you can use the resources that you already probably are using for social connection as a means of connecting yourself professionally.

### Participate in practicum and secure internships

According to a study done by the Journal of Education for Business, employers find that internship experience gives students the

opportunity to have “real-world experience,” while also providing a space to cultivate communication and problem-solving skills, which are highly marketable in the now-implemented team models that most areas of the workforce are employing. Getting practical experience that is hands-on is important. It’s great to be able to say that you understand the theory behind certain things based on what you learned in class. However, applying those theories in real-world experiences will definitely set you apart from those who limited themselves by only taking classes.

### Shadow a professional

If you are in a field like nursing where you are unable to secure a job, yet because of your academic standing, consider shadowing professionals in your chosen field. Shadowing someone doing the job you’d be interested in doing could help you build your network and add experience to your resume. Moreover, you’d be able to have conversations and ask the person

who you are shadowing questions about the field, which is a valuable didactic experience.

### Conduct some research

Getting involved in research shows people that not only are you taking a vested interest in your discipline, but you are attempting to be a part of innovation in that field. You don’t necessarily have to conceptualize and implement your own project — unless you can or want to — since joining someone else’s already-established research team can be valuable as well.

In short, there are a myriad of options both on campus and off that can help you get a foot in the door, like your career and academic advisors or websites like Handshake and LinkedIn. The bottom line is that you could be an excellent student with straight A’s, but getting yourself out there before you graduate is crucial. This can only serve to help you when you’re applying to graduate programs, scholarships or jobs.



## Bento Café

By: **Suvina Daryanani**  
Contributing Writer

*NSU is a unique and lively campus, but that doesn’t mean Sharks can’t band together and take an afternoon to explore the South Florida area — even if that just means finding a quaint place to study.*

NSU is a unique and lively campus, but that doesn’t mean Sharks can’t band together and take an afternoon to explore the South Florida area — even if that just means finding a quaint place to study.

If you’re tired of on campus food and are looking for a casual place to eat near campus, you can check out Bento Café in the Davie Tower Shops plaza. With delicious food, great prices and a relaxing environment to chill with your friends, do some schoolwork or sit back and relax, Bento Café is the place to go.



**PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM A. GOOD**  
Bento Café is very price-friendly and the large portions usually call for a takeout box.

Bento Café is a local chain serving Pan-Asian cuisine, including sushi and grilled fare, in a modern setting. The welcoming atmosphere, interior and, most importantly, the food will make you want to come back again and again.

The menu is the same at all times for lunch and dinner. People are drawn to this café because of all of the options to customize your own food selections. For those who love spice, Bento Café cooks your food to taste by adding ingredients upon your request for “mild, medium, spicy or x3 spicy” menu items. Additionally, Bento Café is known for their “Bento Box,” where you choose all the different entrées that you wish to try from the menu and it is put together and presented in a box-like tray. Moreover, those who wish to monitor their food calorie consumption will appreciate that the menu includes the calories of each dish.

Thinking about Bento Café may make your mouth water. You can try ordering the spicy cream chicken bowl with brown rice. The chicken is cooked with a sweet and sour crust on

the outside and served with seasoned asparagus and brown rice. But, with the enormous variety Bento Café has to offer, anyone can find his or her new favorite type of food.

This café also offers bubble tea, with up to 25 different flavors and toppings to choose from. Some flavors to try are the strawberry, banana or the peanut butter bubble tea with the regular flavored tapioca.

### Bento Café

2260 S. University Dr,  
Davie, FL 33317

Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Saturdays and Sundays: 11:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.  
\$8 - \$10

## Preparing for midterm week

By: **Maria Valladares**  
Contributing Writer

We are not very far away from one of the most stressful weeks in the semester — midterm week. On the bright side, this means that you are already halfway through the semester. On the other hand, midterm week is usually the time when people stop taking care of themselves properly and spend time studying, suffering from a lack of sleep and caffeine addictions. However, as students, we must try our best to be successful without abandoning self-care. Here are some tips for getting through midterm week successfully.

### Don’t procrastinate

You’ve waited until the very last minute and defied all expectations laid out by your professors when they warned you on syllabus day that this assignment was one that “cannot be done the night before.” While many of us have procrastinated at one point in their life — some of us more than others — midterms week is one

of those weeks that you should not. Let’s face it, there’s no chance that you can cram fifteen chapters worth of content in one night. In fact, according to the Association for Psychological Science, writing out practice questions and studying little by little over time were the best methods for passing exams. So, begin to eliminate your distractions and start studying. Set deadlines for yourself so you’ll know when to study and how to study.

### Reach out for help

If you need assistance with test preparations, consider reaching out to your professors, advisors and other resources for help right now. Don’t wait until the day of the actual midterm to go to your professor’s office to ask for help regarding concepts that you do not understand. At best, you will receive a deadpan expression and a weak explanation. At worst — well, at worst you won’t be able to find them in

their office the day of said midterm. Start going to their office hours and asking questions now.

Apart from going to office hours, you can also make an appointment with other on-campus resources like the Tutoring and Testing Center which provide academic support services. It offers individualized tutoring in areas that extend from the sciences to humanities.

### Keep a positive attitude

Sometimes, stress and worry can get the best of us which is why it’s important to always keep a positive attitude and try your absolute best. Try to not get too stressed because that can take a toll on your mental and physical health. If it seems hard, keep pushing, but do not push yourself to the brink of breaking apart.

### Love yourself

Take some time out of your day to go to the gym or to relax. Take constant study

breaks and treat yourself — whether it be taking a nap or going out to eat lunch with a friend. Also, remember to sleep. Not only is it important for your health, but a study done by the Association for Psychological Science also showed that 60 percent of students who pulled all-nighters did worse than they would have otherwise done. As much as we lowkey take pride on who slept the least in our friend groups, now is not the time to bring out those bragging rights. If possible, try to get at least six hours of sleep in. Apart from sleeping, make sure you are eating correctly. Don’t let your bloodstream be filled with iced coffee and bacon gouda. Eat something nutritious.

Midterms week is stressful but you can overcome it if you study and prepare properly. Remember to reach out for help when you need it, take study breaks and keep a positive attitude.



# ‘Hamilton’ comes to the Broward Center

By: Maria Valladares  
Contributing Writer

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts announced on Jan. 26 that the popular musical “Hamilton” would be at the Broward Center for the 2018-19 season.

“Hamilton” is a musical incorporating rap, jazz, blues and hip-hop to tell the narrative of one of America’s most ambitious founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton. The musical, which was written by award-winning Puerto Rican-American playwright Lin-Manuel Miranda, was inspired by the 2004 biography “Alexander Hamilton” by Ron Chernow.

Common, a renowned rapper and artist, introduced the Hamilton cast for their 2016 Tony’s performance and said that “Hamilton” was “one of the greatest pieces of art ever made.” The play follows the life and death of Alexander Hamilton. It starts off by introducing

Hamilton, a penniless orphan who was born in the Caribbean, as an ambitious immigrant who comes to the United States in hopes of being able to live a better life and escape the obstacles that he encountered during his childhood.

Throughout the course of the play, the audience sees how Hamilton’s ability to write leads him to live out his greatest triumphs and eventual downfall. Although the play centers on Hamilton’s life, there are other key historical figures. The play introduces John Laurens, Hamilton’s best friend and fervent abolitionist, and Marquis de Laffayette, a French military officer who would later play a vital role in winning the Revolutionary War as well as Aaron Burr, Hamilton’s opponent and eventual murderer. The audience sees founding fathers such as George Washington and Thomas

Jefferson exposed for their flaws and humanized instead of being put on a pedestal. The story also introduces us to the Schuyler Sisters — a group of three sisters that believe that women should have the same rights as men and that society should not dictate a woman’s behavior merely because she is a woman. The play incorporates suspense, drama, romance and history in a way that has never been witnessed in Broadway history. The musical has won 11 Tony awards, a Grammy and a Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

“Hamilton” is scheduled for a five week performance and the only way to obtain tickets is to buy a season ticket-subscription. Subscription packages are on sale now and they range from \$261 to \$1,200. There is no news on whether single tickets outside of season subscriptions will be available in the future.

## OFF SHORE CALENDAR

**Robert Cray Band**  
Feb. 20 | 8 p.m.  
@Parker Playhouse

**Thomas Friedman**  
Feb. 21 | 7:30 p.m.  
@Broward Center for the Performing Arts

**Respect The Mic!**  
Feb. 22 | 7 p.m.  
@C&I Studios and Next Door

**Jerry Seinfeld**  
Feb. 23 | 8 p.m.  
@Hard Rock Live

**Rocket Man: An Elton John Tribute**  
Feb. 23 | 7:30 p.m.  
@Broward Center for the Performing Arts

## SOUNDBITE

### ‘Chinoiserie Pt. 3’ by Onra

By: Adam DeRoss  
Contributing Writer

French DJ and instrumental hip-hop producer Arnaud Bernard, better known by his moniker Onra, is an experienced yet obscure producer in the trip-hop genre. Having produced seven studio albums and numerous EPs, Bernard is no stranger to the music making process — especially the uniquely specific process he uses. Since 2006, Bernard has traveled to Eastern Asian countries such as China and Vietnam to collect records produced there. Beginning with his second studio album “Chinoiserie Pt. 1” in 2006, he’s heavily sampled these records in his music to give it a unique twist juxtaposed to most other trip-hop artists that employ a lot of Japanese influence. His seventh studio album and the conclusion to the Chinoiserie trilogy, “Chinoiserie Pt. 3” released on March 10, 2017. As with most trip-hop, the cuts contained on this record are meant for relaxation and background music for other tasks. Because of this, the record appeals to a very specific niche, but an outsider looking in may still find some interest in the unique sounds and melodies contained within.

#### Best cuts



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Even though it’s almost at its one year anniversary, “Chinoiserie Pt. 3” is still an unique and refreshing take on trip-hop.

The record contains a collection of 32 individual cuts spanning 58 minutes in total. Most of the tracks are exceptionally short, rarely going for much longer than two minutes. Each of the individual tracks sound similar yet they also bring their own unique sounds and samples to the forefront of the mix.

A great example is the second track “Loyalty.” It combines grainy and lo-fi wood

block percussion and bells with a deep punchy bassline. The sounds of Chinese lutes and erhus mix melodically with the prior base elements and some sparse vocal sampling interwoven at various intervals.

“The Storm” is much more conventional from a modern music standpoint. It uses a heavily modulated and delayed snare that pitch shifts up and down almost like rain pattering on a tin roof. It also makes use of a synthesized sample of what seems to be a handpan, similar in sound to a steel drum but more muted and subtle. This is topped off by the crackling sounds of rolling thunder.

“Pearl Song” is a cut that brings Chinese vocals into the spotlight. The track opens with a woman singing what seems to be a traditional piece recorded in the ‘50s or ‘60s. As these vocals progress, the track introduces a heavy kick drum that breaks up the vocal sample and syncopates with it to provide a strangely compelling and melancholic melody that drives the track forward.

The shortest track on the record, “Memories From 1968,” blends together traditional and

classical Chinese stringed instruments with the more modern drum progressions and modulated synth chords of today’s synth pop or alternative rock. While the track barely makes it past the one-minute mark, it stands as one of the most interesting fusions of sound on the record.

Bernard has been producing his unique Asian-influenced sound for quite some time. The Chinoiserie trilogy stands as a testament to how sampling in instrumental music can help breathe new life into forgotten classics of a culture as well as spread awareness of those classics to the open minded from other cultures. As a record meant for consumption, “Chinoiserie Pt. 3” may not be the most dense or meaningful collection of music out there. But for the purposes of unique and enjoyable trip-hop production, this collection of beats stands as a solid record for any lover of cultural expression and hip-hop music.

#### Other Great Cuts

“New Year’s in Guang Zhou,” “Waterlily,” “Fake Porcelain,” “Autumn Moon Shining Over the Calm Lake”

## Book Shell-f

### ‘The Poisonwood Bible’ by Barbara Kingsolver

By: Madelyn Rinka  
News Editor

Barbara Kingsolver’s book, “The Poisonwood Bible,”though published in 1998, serves as a timeless reminder of the dangers of ignorantly clashing cultures and religion. Nominated for New York Time’s 10 Best Books of the Year list in 1998 and included in Oprah’s Book Club in 2000, the cautionary tale is still on must-read lists nearly 20 years after it first hit the bookshelves.

Set in the late 1950’s, the story follows Nathan Price, a domineering, stubborn Baptist minister, his wife, Orleanna, and their four daughters, Rachel, twins Leah and Adah, and Ruth May. The missionaries travel to the Congo in Africa, with the mindset that their faith and culture is far superior to the natives of the village Kilanga.

The first sign that the Prices are largely unprepared for life in the Congo is when Nathan attempts to create a vegetable garden. Made in part to provide food for his family, but mostly to instruct the natives of Kilanga on simple forms of agriculture that may save them from starvation and famine that exists in many parts of Africa. With unfit conditions and a lack of necessary pollinators, Nathan’s North American-style garden quickly perished due to his naivety.

As foreseeable within the first few chapters of the tale, the family’s life in the Congo goes awry. From sickness and violence to arranged marriage and death, “The Poisonwood Bible” grips readers with its seemingly endless plot twists and storylines, without being overwhelming.

The plot of the story is narrated through the members of the family, serving as an entangled web that the reader has to trace through with the introduction of each character. Despite the fact that the narrator’s each have their own unique personality and story, the plot doesn’t ever get overwhelming to the point of confusion.

Kingsolver manages each different narrator and sister with a sort of delicacy and attention to detail that is difficult to find in many other works. Ruth May, the youngest, most excitable and energetic sister, narrates the book in a youthful, simplistic way. On the other hand, Adah, Leah’s twin who is described as mute, brain-damaged and disabled, proves to the readers that she has an incredibly poetic, well-developed way of looking at the world unfold around her. While

her family believes she is simple-minded, Adah reveals she uses her silence to her own advantage, allowing those around her to think she has a limited intellect, while she is actually brilliant.

As the plot thickens, it is exciting and nerve-wracking to see each character realize the danger of the situation they’ve been put in and how they each react to it. Kingsolver’s detailing of the story leaves the reader battling with conflicting emotions: an inherent desire to protect the Price family, and the desperate want to preserve the Kilangan people from the domineering religious influence of the West. A warning to all against the dangers of trying to oppress and assimilate other cultures, “The Poisonwood Bible” should be on every avid reader’s list.

BSU Member Picks

By: Members of Black Student Union

*In honor of Black History Month, we asked members of the Black Student Union what media they would recommend the NSU community check out this month. Here were a few of their suggestions.*

- Shylia Barnes, secretary and junior human services administration major, said:**

“I think everyone should watch ‘Roots’ at some point in their lives because it is a powerful miniseries that embodies slavery and how black people were treated. I first saw it when I was in high school, and I was so happy that the teacher made it a part of the curriculum because it made the topic more real than just reading words from a textbook.”
- Taylor Blackwell, vice president and senior chemistry major, said:**

“I think everyone should read the ‘Willie Lynch Letter.’ This letter states how racism and mental slavery were meant to continue past the abolition of slavery by turning blacks against one another through colorism. Willie Lynch knew that this mentality would carry on today and hurt the Black community [which is why] we should educate ourselves and heal our community as it relates to colorism.”
- Talisa Heholt, event planning chair and**

- senior nursing major, said:**

“I actually found this book on a shelf in my mom’s garage called ‘Our Separate Ways’ by Ella L.J. Edmondson Bell and Stella M. Nkomo. The text illustrates how black and white women go through different struggles in the push for professional identity and success and how racial differences intensify this particular separation. I like that it focuses on making the audience — especially white women — aware that in fighting the battle of sexism, it’s also essential to stand against racism. You can’t properly stand against sexism if you aren’t fighting for your black female counterparts.”
- Jocelyn Hunter, community service chair and sophomore biology major, said:**

“‘The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks’ is a great read for Black History Month. It tells the true story of a poor, uneducated black woman whose cancer cells were used, without her knowledge, to create the first ‘immortalized’ cell line. Her HeLa cells went on to become one of the most valuable assets to medical research, yet neither her nor her family received compensation for her contribution.”
- Brithney Lamour, treasurer and senior biology major, said:**

“‘13th.’ Everyone must see it. It really gives

- an insight into why Black Lives Matter is such an important movement. It’s a great breakdown of this system and how deeply-rooted it is in slavery and oppression.”
- Taliyah White, event planning committee member and sophomore environmental science major, said:**

“My favorite book is ‘The Bluest Eye’ by Tony Morrison, which I relate to a lot because even though I’m a light-skinned girl, I was the only brown girl in my high school. I found myself wishing I was white with blue eyes because I thought that would make people like me more; that I’d fit in more, and it would make me feel beautiful. This book follows the experience of a young black girl who’s the darkest-skinned girl in all of her black community. She’s constantly experiencing racism, even from her own people and she thinks she’s not beautiful and prays to God that He would make her eyes blue so that others would like her more. So, I feel like it’s a really good book to read this month.”
- Shey King, event planning committee member and junior political science major, said:**

“My favorite artist is Kendrick Lamar because he is the person who cared about being ‘woke’ before it was a trend. No one wants to be

- aware of what’s going on in society, when it’s just them seeing it. It puts you in the spotlight and you’re afraid of what people think of you and all those things. But, he has been writing music about what’s really been going on since before all these famous people came into the light saying they represent this or that. He didn’t care what people thought, or whether or not his albums were bought. He tries to send a message through his music and addresses real issues. His album, ‘To Pimp A Butterfly’ was all about being black, embracing your blackness, and talking about how society puts us at a disadvantage in general.”
- Kadeem Hall, president and junior political science major, said:**

“‘The Hidden Colors’ documentary series is a must-watch for all Americans that seek to find truths on American history. The American history that is taught in high schools is highly partial and uninformative of many of the necessary, basic points that educated individuals should have in their arsenal of knowledge. The accounts focus on the systemic, cultural, and theoretical actors of racism and how it has shaped American society throughout history.”

A novice’s guide to art walks, museums and fairs

By: Michaela Greer  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

You’ve made it to the weekend and finally decided to drive down to Downtown Fort Lauderdale, Wynwood or another art district to hang out with friends, take selfies with some hand-painted backdrops and sass any naysayer who says that you aren’t #cultured. Things are going well until you arrive at your destination and the fear sinks in because: you don’t know where to go, what to look at or how to exist while all the “professional art lovers” mill around you. Anxiety sets in, you snap a few photos to prove that you went and then get out of dodge, reminded of why you never do the “art thing.”

I’ll admit that as an art student, I’ve been there and occasionally get a sinking feeling at art events but then I remember a few things I’ve learned and it’s smooth sailing from there on out. I’m no expert, but here are a few tips you can take from me:

- Scope out the event**

Going to an art fair, exhibition opening or art walk should be planned much like any other place you’ll be visiting for the first time. For example, if you were going to a new movie theater, you’d likely Google its location, movies that are showing, find out about the dress code, pricing and parking situation and read a few reviews. Going to an art event isn’t much different. You don’t have to conduct extensive research, but having an idea of what’s to be expected will help you feel more comfortable and help prepare you. So, if you’re planning to check out the Downtown Hollywood Mural Project, figuring out the general location of the murals beforehand would be helpful.
- Don’t be afraid to ask questions**

To that point, you shouldn’t be afraid to ask questions if you get lost, or have an inquiry. Sure, there may be a few stuffy art fanatics who turn their nose up at those who aren’t in the know, but they’re so few and far between you will likely never meet one. Generally, curators, participants, artists and even visitors are friendly, welcome questions and can be very helpful. Plus, in the end what’s more valuable to you: swallowing your pride to find something out or wasting a good opportunity?

- Mind your manners**

Everyone at that event wants to see the artwork too. Being courteous to others will go a long way toward your enjoyment and will keep you out of trouble. If you’d like to take photos, ask a guard or gallery representative if you can do so. Try not to distract from another visitor’s experience by talking loudly on the phone or with a friend, blocking the artwork or monopolizing the time of a tour guide, artist or curator.

Also, for the love of all things lovely, do not touch the art unless you are explicitly given permission to do so. Yes, it’s shiny and beautiful and you just want to run your hands long the surface. Don’t. Oils and dirt on your hand can ruin finishes and you risk knocking the piece over. Of course, murals are a little different, as they’re exposed to the elements and intended to be interacted with, but still do your best to leave the piece as nice as you found it so others can enjoy it too.
- Keep some cash handy**

Whether it’s for parking, buying food or paying for admission, it’s always a good idea to keep a little cash handy. Sometimes card readers don’t work, or the vendor might not have had one to begin with. Either way, having a few dollars can turn out to be pretty helpful.
- Be aware of your surroundings**

The fact is that there are some people who take advantage of situations, especially when there are large crowds of people. Choose to carry a smaller bag instead of a large purse, keep valuables locked away and out of sight and monitor your surroundings, just to be on the safe side.
- Dress comfortably**

Yes, you will want to capture those Instagram-worthy pictures but if you can’t make it around the block or through the museum because your feet hurt or your clothes are restricting, you’re doing yourself a disservice. Additionally, if you’re going to be outside for a majority of the time, dress for the weather. Conversely, you may want to carry a little sweater or wrap if you tend to be cold in air conditioned settings.

- Opt for a tour**

If you really have no idea what to look for or wish to have a knowledgeable person walk you through the exhibit or location, consider going on an art tour. For a small fee or sometimes for free, you can tour through the space while learning about the nitty-gritty details of the artwork. If you’re especially new to the art scene, these tours are a great way to make friends while looking at some really amazing works.
- Have an open mind**

You may see works that truly speak to you and you may see some that aren’t really your style. Keeping an open mind can allow

- you to enjoy even those pieces. Spend some time looking at the work. Ask yourself why the artist chose to make certain choices and what the work reminds you of. With a little time, you may find yourself valuing the piece a little more than before, but that can only happen if you stay open.
- At the end of the day, the goal is to have fun and you know better than anyone what you want to get out of your art-viewing experience. Doing a little preparation before you arrive, being courteous and staying open minded can only enhance your experience, and that’s exactly what it’s all about.

Making the most of your on-campus spring break

By: Jieun Son  
Contributing Writer

- Invite your friends over**

You can plan to spend time with your friends who don’t go to the same school. If your breaks fall at the same time, see if they can spend a few days here so you can catch up.
- Go to Art Walk in Wynwood**

Wynwood Art Walk is one of the most iconic events in Miami. It takes place on the second Saturday of every month, and spring break is the second week of March, so it is a perfect chance to visit. It has galleries and collections of murals, creators, gourmet food trucks and music. Also, one of the best parts of Wynwood is that it’s free and open to the public. So take yourself there and make your Saturday night awesome.
- Sleep and relax as much as you want**

If you are staying on campus, you do not need to worry about decompressing and recovering from all the energy you’ve spent on spring break. You’ve already saved your energy by spending the week relaxing on campus. Just make sure to catch up on sleep to get ready for the new term.
- Spring break is the last little bit of time off students have before the academic year ends. It is one of the few chances for students to truly get a break from the college grind. However, since a week goes by quickly, some students might not want to leave campus. At the same time, they might not want to head back to class feeling they’ve wasted their free time. So how can those of us staying on campus enjoy our break, and what things can we do?

Here are several ideas to make your spring break on campus productive, peaceful and surprisingly fun.

**Read a book from your to-be-read list**

Not your textbook. Not the assigned reading for class. An actual book that hooks you in and keeps you mesmerized until the end — a book that you can enjoy from start to finish without having pressure to take notes or to memorize the plot and character development. If you have some books that you have wanted to read but haven’t gotten a chance to during the semester, spring break is a chance for you to do it.



On The Bench:

Olympic Athletes get paid peanut-shells

By: Christina McLaughlin  
Opinions Editor

As the Olympics are well underway, you can’t help but relish in the sports, events and most importantly, the Olympians’ stories. But what if I told you that not only did these Olympians struggle mentally and physically during training, they also face major financial struggles along the way?

To put it into perspective, every Olympic-hopeful has to train and go to numerous competitions to even reach the Olympic level, which often takes years to accomplish. Training, equipment, entrance fees and other payments, not to mention the cost of living and a healthy diet for an athlete, can involve a hefty price tag. As an article in the Huffington Post put it, “it’s easily a six-figure ‘investment’ — with no guarantee of a ‘return’ (meaning a medal or an endorsement deal) — when factoring in the costs of equipment, coaching and travel.”

With such a large investment, you can imagine that the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) takes up a percentage or a majority of the cost since these athletes are representing the United States. The USOC states on their website that they “support U.S. Olympic and Paralympic athletes on and off the field of play through programming such as direct athlete funding, health insurance, tuition grants, media and marketing opportunities, etc.” But a

recent investigation by “Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel” of this non-profit proves otherwise.

Jonathan Cheever, an olympic snowboarder, spent \$30,000 last year on training, equipment and flights to olympic qualifier tournaments around the world. To make ends meet and pay off his debt, he works as a certified plumber. In the last Olympics, Cheever received a \$1,500 stipend and health insurance from the USOC. So here’s an Olympic athlete representing the U.S. by unclogging Joe Schmoe’s pipes right before he heads home to train. How is that fair to the athlete and how could he possibly balance his training and plumbing job? It’s impossible, and a \$1,500 stipend covers almost nothing of what he racked up in debt and other financial obligations as well as physical burdens he must have gone through.

Mike Trapp, another Olympic snowboarder, received a \$3,500 stipend with health insurance from the USOC but spent around \$35,000. An improvement, I guess, compared to the compensation Cheever was given, but certainly not even close to what athletes should be given. To pay back his debt and save money for this year’s olympic games he fixed cars as a mechanic and started a GoFundMe page to bridge the gap of the money he still needed.

It’s common to see GoFundMe pages

and other fundraising platforms filled with Olympians trying to pay their way to the Olympics. If you have athletes competing with other countries and representing the United States, they should be supported by the United States. These athletes shouldn’t have to be asking for money from the public like beggars on the street. Recent tax filings revealed that the USOC generated \$200 million in revenue with over 10 employees being paid six figure salaries and the CEO earning over one million dollars last year. According to records, it is indicated that \$10-12 million is given to athletes and the rest of the revenue is kept within the USOC. This equates to about six percent for the athletes.

A measly six percent for athletes who work tirelessly throughout their lives to make it to the Olympics and attempt to medal for the United States is shameful. What makes things worse is that this is not an issue for other countries. Most countries supply their Olympic Athletes with supplemental income funded by government money. But the USOC is not government funded which is where the main corruption stems from.

According to the USOC website, “93 percent of expenses are spent to support the U.S. athletes and the 47 National Governing Bodies.” National Governing Bodies are the governing bodies which cover the various sports

the U.S. participates in. Each of these National Governing Bodies have paid employees and overhead charges, which is where the brunt of the money seems to be headed. So that means that the athletes who represent the United States aren’t paid well, but the white collars who are in charge of the rules and legislation get the big bucks for doing nothing but sitting behind a desk and crunching numbers. Meanwhile, Olympians like Trapp and Cheever are struggling to stay above the poverty line.

It seems to me that these athletes are at an unfair disadvantage. Not only do they not get compensated for their efforts like other countries’ athletes, but they are limited in their ways of success. How could someone possibly succeed in a high impact, high intensity sport without proper diet, access to adequate training and the weight of financial burden? It’s a feat in and of itself that the American athletes are doing so well under these circumstances. The Olympics are supposed to elicit pride in your country, especially for the U.S. which holds these athletes in high esteem. In reality, though, most of them will struggle to survive, let alone make it to the games to achieve their dreams.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK:  
Lexie Storrer



By: Diego Galvez  
Sports Editor

Finishing the 2017 season with a 20-10 record, the most wins by a Shark since 2012, sophomore pre-nursing major Lexie Storrer is a pitcher on the softball team who excels at her sport.

What made your interested in playing softball?

“My aunt and my grandpa, but my aunt played her whole life so I grew up watching her play and I decided to play too.”

When did you realize you were meant to be pursue being a pro softball player?

“I started playing when I was eight, so by the time I was like 10 I was like ‘Ok, I’m pretty good at this’ so I just kept going and going.”

You recently had a perfect game, can tell me about it?

“Yeah. A perfect game is a game when you don’t have anyone on base. You don’t walk



PRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM D. HENDRICKS  
Sophomore Lexie Storrer was named to the 2017 Spring Commissioner’s Honor Roll and she was named First Team All-State and First All-Sunflower League in 2016, 2015 and 2014.

anybody. You don’t hit anybody. It’s kind of all just you, pretty much. But, I got a lot of ‘pump

ups.’ My defense did a lot of the work too. It was good. It was fun.”

How did this make you feel?

“I felt pretty good about it. I worked really hard the week before. We struggled in Alabama and then I work really hard with coach [LeMaire] before practices and then in the game it just paid off.”

How’s living in Florida different from living in Kansas?

“It’s hot, like really hot. In Kansas it’s cold right now and here it’s really hot. So being outdoors practicing is one of the benefits here rather than being back in Kansas.”

This is your Sophomore year, how close are you with your team and your coaches?

“I absolutely love my coaches and my teammates. I feel like everybody gets along so well and the culture is so different down here so

it’s easier to get along with people.”

You have two brothers, do you play softball a lot with them?

“Yes, I have two younger brothers. They play baseball and one plays basketball so I usually play with them.”

How do you balance school and athletics?

“It’s pretty easy. It’s all time management. You got to get your homework done before practice or even after practice. It’s not that bad you just got to do your work.”

How do you feel about your success so far here at NSU?

“I think is awesome. It’s a ton to do with coach LeMaire and her teaching me everything, you know, following her lead. And I bind into her process, [it’s] are very helpful.”

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NSUCURRENT.NOVA.EDU

OUT OF THE SHARKZONE

US teenager makes history at Winter Olympics

According to CNN Sports, former teenage standout and 17-year-old Chloe Kim is now the youngest Olympic gold medalist on snow. The 5ft 3in athlete made the spotlight in South Korea on Tuesday when she won the women's halfpipe gold with a near-perfect score of 98.25.

Shaun White wins his third and US's 100th gold in Winter Olympics

According to CNN Sports, Shaun White, iconic U.S. snowboarder, won his third Olympic halfpipe gold medal, which is also the 100th overall at a Winter Games for Team USA. The 31-year-old pulled off an epic final run and scored a 97.75 when he included his trademark double McTwist 1260 along with his own back-to-back 1440s for the first time in competition. His achievement has placed him with Olympic legends such as Michael Phelps.

Golfer Bill Haas injured in fatal car crash

Pro golfer Bill Haas was involved and injured in a fatal car crash Feb. 13 in Pacific Palisades, Calif., according to USA Today. Both the PGA Tour and Haas' manager, Allen Hobbs, confirmed in a statement that the 35-year-old player was a passenger in the car that was involved in the accident. Haas avoided serious injuries and was planning

to return to his home on Greenville, S.C., after his release from the hospital. The PGA said that the six-time winner of the PGA Tour will withdraw from the Genesis Open at Riviera Country Club.

US Hockey loses in overtime to Slovenia in Winter Olympics

According to The New York Times, Team Slovenia's Jan Mursak scored 38 seconds into overtime, making that his second goal of the game. With this point, Slovenia raised up with a two-goal deficit in the third period to stun the United States, 3-2, in overtime in their men's hockey opener.

Three books to be published on the Olympics

According to The New York Times, with this year's Winter Olympics hosted in Pyeongchang, South Korea, three books will delve into the history of the Games and the sacrifices required of the athletes to win gold. The books include: "The Games: A Global History of the Olympics" by David Goldblatt, "The boy of Winter: The untold story of a Coach, a Dream and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team" by Wayne Coffey and "The Second Mark: Courage, Corruption and the Battle for Olympic Gold" by Joy Goodwin.

ON DECK

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Palm Beach Atlantic  
Feb. 21 | 5:30 p.m.  
Rick Case Arena

@Florida Tech  
Feb. 24 | 2 p.m.  
Melbourne, Fla.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Palm Beach Atlantic  
Feb. 21 | 7:30 p.m.  
Rick Case Arena

@Florida Tech  
Feb. 24 | 4 p.m.  
Melbourne, Fla.

MEN'S BASEBALL

@Embry-Riddle  
Feb. 23 | 6 p.m.  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

@Embry-Riddle (DH)  
Feb. 24 | 1 p.m. & 4 p.m.  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

@SSC Championships  
Feb. 22-25  
Clearwater, Fla.

MEN'S SWIMMING

@SSC Championships  
Feb. 22-25  
Clearwater, Fla.

MEN'S GOLF

@2017 Saint Leo Invitational  
Feb. 26-27  
Lake Jovita Country Club,  
Dade City, Fla.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

vs. Kentucky State (DH)  
Feb. 21 | 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.  
Ad Griffin

@Embry-Riddle  
Feb. 23 | 6 p.m.  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

@Embry-Riddle (DH)  
Feb. 24 | 12 p.m. & 2 p.m.  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

WOMEN'S ROWING

vs. Florida Tech  
Feb. 24  
Hollywood, Fla.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

@Stetson University  
Feb. 25 | 1 p.m.  
Deland, Fla.

SPORTS SHORTS

Men's Baseball

The Sharks traveled to Florence, Ala. on Feb. 9 and 10 to take on the University of Northern Alabama Lions. After suffering two losses in the weekend series, 0-9 and 6-8, the Sharks headed home. On Tuesday, they suffered another loss with a final score of 4-9 against Saint Thomas. The team now stands 3-4 overall.

Men's Basketball

The Sharks won 90-71 against Rollins. Freshman Malik Hardy scored a total of 26 points with freshman Nick Smith closely behind with a total of 21 points. Junior David Dennis grabbed eight rebounds and seven assists to help the Sharks reach this triumphant feat.

Men's Golf

Last week, the Sharks participated in the Matlock Collegiate Classic in Lakeland, Fla. and placed fourth out of 15 teams. Junior Juan Jose Guerra shot a bogey-free 66 in the third round with a total of 207. Junior Finlay Mason and freshman Tomas Millet tied with a total of 73 in the third round ending up tied for 13th place.

Women's basketball

On Feb. 14, the women's basketball team brought home a 75-66 win against Rollins. Junior Alison Hughes scored a total of 25 points. Junior Mikayla Thompson and sophomore Cheray Saunders also contributed 8 rebounds and 6 assists, respectively. The team stands 11-12 overall for this season.

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# NSU, it’s time to become more environmentally conscious

By: **Christina McLaughlin**  
Opinions Editor

For a school so progressive and looking towards the future to reach a goal to be viewed as a “premier, private, not-for-profit university of quality and distinction,” NSU is definitely lacking in the environmentally conscious department. NSU is known to have numerous programs across a variety of disciplines with an emphasis on the sciences, which makes all of the environmental setbacks on campus ironic.

Shark Dining serves meals and other products throughout the day and each of these meals are served in plastic containers, plastic bags and worst of all, styrofoam plates. Styrofoam is made of polystyrene (EPS) foam, which is very hard to recycle. This means that all of those plates we eat on three times or more a day, will end up in a landfill — that’s a lot of plates.

It’s true that there have been a few attempts to provide students with reusable plates or take-away containers, but these plans haven’t really been successful. They were not evenly distributed to all students and not all students were aware of these products. Here’s another question: Why can’t we just bring our own containers and plates to the UC to use? It will

not only be more environmentally conscious but cost efficient. That way, NSU will only need to buy a certain amount of the containers for those who aren’t prepared with containers, which would be a fraction of the containers being used currently.

A majority of the buildings in NSU run on systems where lights are turned off when not in use. This is a great step towards saving energy, but there is always progress to be made. We live in an extremely warm climate — we didn’t get the name “The Sunshine State” for nothing — so why don’t we add solar panels on some of the buildings? Most of them get warmth beating into the buildings anyways so why not capture those rays and use them for sustainable energy? Yes, this would require a lot of labor and maintenance to put together, but the amount of the money the school would save with these efforts in the long run would be worth the initial price tag.

Additionally, there are fliers, boards and other forms of advertisements constantly being placed around campus, which can not only be distracting but also an incredible waste of paper, since most people just throw out these fliers or ignore them. Yes, the paper will eventually be

recycled but we still shouldn’t be using this much in the first place if it doesn’t serve its purpose. Maybe if we had projector screens and monitors filled with more advertisements of events on campus compared to what we have now, it would not only be more environmentally conscious but also make more space for walking and take away from distractions in the areas of high foot-traffic.

Here comes another touchy subject: cars and other motor vehicle emissions. We all know that these emissions are not great for the environment. Burning fossil fuels is terrible for the environment. I’m not saying we should ban cars and trucks completely, but we can certainly put in place programs to reduce these problems. Why not put some of the Shark Shuttles lines that were advertised to freshmen back in service? We do have lines on the weekends to go downtown but that doesn’t extend to other needs like food shopping that might be needed during the week. If we put some more lines in place, we can cut down on the amount of students driving to the same place on the same day. Of course, there will still be cars on the road, but adding this service would reduce the amount of trips.

I know there are many students who rely on Uber, Lyft and other means of transportation to get around, but if they had a resource that is part of NSU, I’m sure they would use it if it worked with students fairly. This would also cut down out of pocket costs which is a major sore spot for college students across the United States.

I’m not saying this school isn’t anything; NSU is really trying to make decisions with the environment in mind, which, as an environmental science major, I greatly appreciate. But there is always room for improvement and room for new ideas to be spread. Implementing any or all of these ideas will also give our school a big jump on our way to being on the list of energy-efficient and environmentally friendly universities, which never hurts. I’m not trying to be a “tree-hugger;” admittedly I use paper and plastic as much as anyone else. I just feel that if we could improve upon the process in which we do things, instead of focusing on the easiest path, we can make a really big difference on our output. Why not start with our everyday life at our home away from home?



## Seriously Kidding

A satire column.

# Students question whether avoiding a topic will actually make it go away

By: **Jenna Kopec**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

“I’m just thinking like, just because you ignore the question doesn’t make it go away,” said Christine Sane, junior political science major.

Sane is one of several NSU students who attended an open forum held by Florida Senator Blake Fake to address their concerns about several topics, including the need for immigration reform, a discussion about safety in schools and the possibility of nuclear war with North Korea.

“He’s our representative,” explained Sane. “So, we feel like, how can you represent us if you don’t know our concerns or what we want or if we don’t know how you stand on

a particular issue?”

But this seems easier said than done. When sophomore business major Greg Standin asked why the senator hadn’t backed legislation that would have made the pathway to citizenship easier for immigrants, a wildly popular stance for the South Florida area according to polling, Blake refused to answer.

“Uh, next question,” responded the senator.

When Margaret Shrimp asked whether or not the senator would arrange a committee in the senate to help avoid a nuclear war with North Korea, the senator responded with only the phrase, “Hm.”

Finally, when Sane asked what would be

done to ensure the safety in both college and grade-level schools, the senator said, “Excellent question, moving on.”

These are not partial quotes; that’s all he said.

Senator Fake isn’t the only representative to be short on answers, it’s part of a national trend, the cause of which experts are unsure about — although many speculate a mixture of apathy and incompetence. However, Fake has a reputation for blatantly ignoring his constituents.

In 2012, Senator Fake said that his main strategy for answering questions that hold him accountable for supporting partisan bills that the residents he represents don’t support is just to

ignore the question.

“They’ll forget,” said Fake. “Trust me, they will forget.”

Except they haven’t. At least not students like Norma Person, a senior biology major, who’s continually advocated for laws to change. She pushed back at the senator for not answering her questions.

“We’re not going to forget a problem that impacts our everyday lives,” said Person. “I don’t understand why you won’t answer these questions.”

To which the senator responded, “Excellent feedback. I call this meeting adjourned.”

# It’s a free country, so I can speak whatever language I want

By: **Nicole Chavannes**  
Copy Editor

As a country built by immigrants, the U.S. is a melting pot of cultures. South Florida, specifically, is one of the most diverse regions of the country, home to people from all across Latin and Central America, as well as the Caribbean. As a result, many South Florida residents are multilingual, speaking more than just English – which isn’t even the United States’ official language, as the country doesn’t actually have one given the way in which it was founded, but I digress. In any event, why, then, do some people feel the need to say, “speak English” when they overhear someone speaking Spanish, or any other language, in public?

Firstly, no one should feel the need to comment on the language I’m speaking if I’m not speaking directly to them. If I’m on the phone with my mother, I should be able to speak to her in Spanish without some stranger outside of the conversation commenting on the language I’m using.

That being said, I understand some people’s frustrations with migrants not being able to speak English after living here for an extended period. If I move to Germany or France, I should learn the language. However, I shouldn’t be expected to be fluent in it as soon as I arrive, and no one who has recently moved here from a foreign country should be expected to know English immediately either.

Criticizing people for speaking a different language discourages them from wanting to speak it, which eventually puts them at a disadvantage. In turn, second and third generation Americans are criticized by their own cultures for not being able to speak their languages well. In 2015, Gina Rodriguez, star of the show “Jane the Virgin,” was criticized for “not being Latina enough” because she doesn’t speak Spanish very well. In response, Rodriguez said, “My parents specifically were terrified of us [their children] having accents because they

were made fun of their whole lives for [their] accents, so they wanted to assimilate us into a culture that wouldn’t right away put up their guard against us because of our accents. They chose to only speak English in the house.”

These criticisms create a vicious cycle in which Latino-Americans, or any other foreign Americans, are criticized by both Americans and their respective cultures. It seems impossible to win, as either they are criticized for not speaking English or not speaking their respective languages. It can create confusion, insecurity and self-doubt for many multicultural people. Instead of criticizing anyone for speaking another language, we should celebrate and respect the diversity in our region. Also, we should mind our own business and stop worrying about how anyone speaks when they’re not speaking directly to us.



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# It's okay to feel sad when bad things happen

By: **Nicole Chavannes**  
Copy Editor

With the recent tragedy striking Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the nation feels sorrow at the loss of at least 17 innocent lives. According to the Washington Post, this was the eighth school shooting in 2018. While any loss of innocent life is tragic, there’s something particularly horrifying at the thought of children being slain so maliciously. With its proximity to NSU, the Stoneman Douglas shooting has left an imprint on our community, which is why it is completely okay to feel sad, whether you or your loved ones were directly affected or not.

Often with tragedies like these, people are either criticized for feeling too little or feeling too much. Some might say it’s too dramatic a response to cry or feel anxiety or hopelessness if you’re not directly affected by the tragedy; I disagree. While the NSU and South Florida communities are obviously affected by an act of terror taking place so close to home, anyone in the country should be able to feel the loss and no one should be criticized for feeling despair.

Part of the beauty of being human is

the ability to empathize with others, despite not experiencing their trauma or heartache firsthand. It’s difficult to turn on the news and hear parents mourning the loss of their child, or panicking because they don’t know where their child is in the wake of such a horrific act. Reading or hearing about the young victims and heroes of this tragedy can elicit an emotional response from anyone, whether they personally knew the victims or not.

Perhaps more poignantly than ever, it’s clear that this kind of calamity can happen anywhere, at any time. It’s difficult to feel safe when it seems children can’t even go to school, go to the movie theater or watch their favorite artists in concert without fearing for their lives.

While it’s important not to let acts of terror dictate how we live our lives, it’s also a normal human response to be sad about them when they happen. It’s also important to remember them, so we can work collectively to support one another and do everything in our power to prevent more tragedies like this from occurring.



# Word processing software needs to get with the “Times”

By: **Siena Berardi**  
Contributing Writer

*NSU students are opinionated about all kinds of things, from universal social issues to NSU-specific concerns. Sometimes, however, we Sharks just need to rant about the smaller things in life to let off some steam. In this column, The Current asks: water your thoughts?*

This is quite the first world problem, but as a student I find one certain thing to be very annoying. Why isn’t the Times New Roman font the default font for word processors? The fact that I have to manually change the font of what I am writing to the typical font can be quite the nuisance. Scrolling through the long list of fonts just to find Times New Roman is a task that could be easily avoided if it was just the default on all systems. Every college paper is usually formatted in APA or MLA format; both require

Times New Roman as the font. So why does Microsoft Word give me the default Calibri? Why does Google Docs start out in Arial?

As someone who spends most of my time typing out papers, taking notes or writing stories, I take the time to format things to the proper requirements. Never once was I asked to turn something in using Arial. Times New Roman has never let me down. In a world filled with chaos, Times New Roman seems to be the only thing that has remained a constant. The chaos should never reach the sacred space that is a word document. Oh, and just in case you’re wondering, yes, I did have to search for the Times New Roman font in the font bar when I finished typing this article for submission.

# Dreamers are Americans, too

By: **Jenna Kopec**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Of all the many facets of immigration debate, the one that centers around DACA recipients, who we often refer to as Dreamers, will never make any sense to me.

DACA, or its proper name Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, protects immigrants who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children. It allows them to live in the country, work and go to school as adults. To be eligible for DACA, individuals can never have committed a crime and must maintain a steady job or enrollment in school. There are no breaks for Dreamers.

On Feb. 15, the Senate failed to pass a bill

that addressed immigration reform and would have protected the Dreamers, according to the Los Angeles Times. While many are concerned that this means that there will come no protection in time for the deadline President Trump set of Mar. 5, some outlets like Vox say that DACA died in September when the government stopped accepting new applications for the program.

In his State of the Union address in January, President Trump discussed both the Dreamers and other aspects of immigration. He promised to find a solution that would best suit the American people because as he said,

“Americans are Dreamers, too;” a statement that only seems to grow in insensitivity and ignorance in light of what seems to be the final end on a piece of legislation that was relatively uncontroversial at its conception.

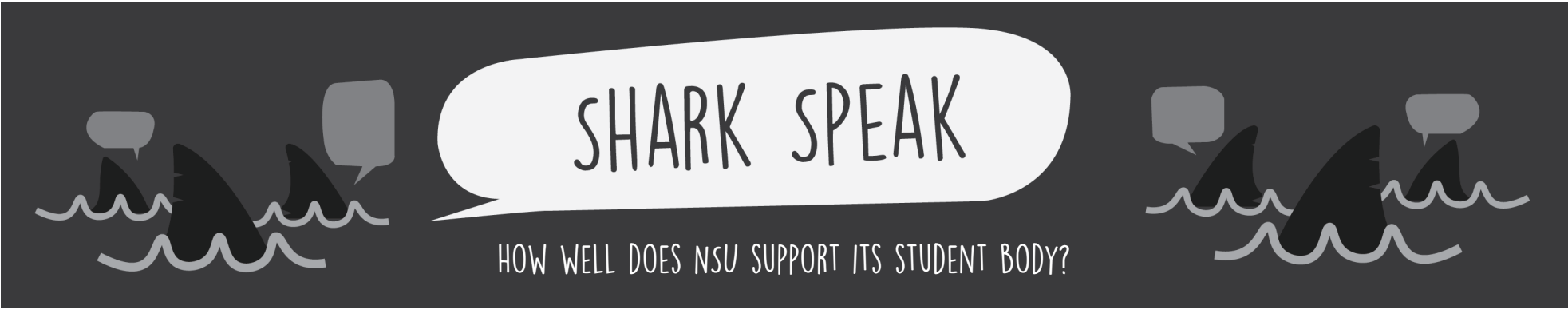
It certainly looks grim for the Dreamers.

But, it shouldn’t. What the president got wrong in the statement “Americans are Dreamers, too” weren’t the words but the order: Dreamers are Americans, too.

Perhaps not in the legal sense — we all know that by now. But, Dreamers have spent their lives in this country. They’ve spent their

formative years on American soil. They share our values, our heartaches and our hopes. They work hard to stay here.

The concept of citizenship is important, I’ll not contest that. But, just like individuals who are given birthright citizenship, Dreamers didn’t choose to come to America; it’s just where they ended up. Yet, they embody what I was always taught were the true American values. They work hard. They do what’s right. They’re representing a better tomorrow for their families. If that’s not what an American is, perhaps we need to rethink the definition.



“Academically, I believe we have a lot of resources like the Tutoring and Testing Center and the Writing Studio that help NSU students progress academically.”

- **Neha Alety**, *freshman biology major*



“Pretty well. If you create relationships with administrators and people that make the decisions here, they are so helpful and there are many resources available to you, but most people don’t know about them. So people need to be engaged on campus and go find out more about these helpful people.”

- **Sarah Margolis**, *sophomore exercise and sport science major*



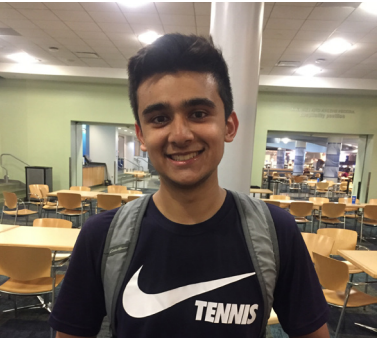
“There are many resources on campus. For example, we have academic advisors and student career development advisors that help us out when we need it and they try to help us in our success.”

- **Adrienne Ang**, *freshman biology major*



“I think NSU supports its students very well, there are multiple offices that students can go to like Student Leadership and Civic Engagement and Career Development to name a couple. So there’s many resources on campus that students can reach out to but is up to the students to take that first step and reach out to those offices.”

- **Andrew Laufenberg**, *freshman finance major*



“I think the school definitely supports students very well with all the resources they offer. If you ever need any help there’s always someone you can talk to.”

- **Kishan Unjia**, *freshman behavioral neuroscience major*



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